

East Timorese have been forcibly evacuated to West Timor and elsewhere in the Indonesian archipelago. There is a systematic programme of destruction and genocide taking place—designed to wipe out the East Timorese elite and raze the infrastructure of East Timor to the ground.

This is a deliberate and carefully planned operation—the militia are not 'out of control', they are in fact firmly under control of the Indonesian military. East Timor is an Asian Kosovo: Indonesian-backed militia and Indonesian police and military are causing terror in East Timor even as you read this message. A gentle 80-year-old nun who helped care for Bishop Belo has been shot, Bishop Belo has fled the country, and there are numerous accounts of children and young men being hacked to death. The neck of a three-year-old child was wrung while his family watched.

I'm writing to you as an Australian citizen who is outraged at these events and who cannot believe that the world, and the US in particular, will do nothing to stop this holocaust. There is a desperate, urgent need for immediate outside help for the Timorese, a gentle Christian people, who believed that the world would stand by them.

Australia has committed 4,500 troops for a peacekeeping force but has so far failed to get any support from the US. There is a great sense of sadness, anger and frustration here about this. And I must tell you that there is great disappointment at the lack of US interest.

Australia has always stood by the side of the United States whenever the US has asked for support—in Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf War. This is the first time in more than 50 years that we have asked for US help and we are getting nowhere. Our troops are on standby in Darwin and by coincidence there is a substantial number of US troops and several US warships also in Northern Australia. My guess is that a significant show of force and commitment by the US would turn the tide.

Please, Congressman, so what you can to help. Ask your colleagues and President Clinton to take a stand for democracy and against the evil, malevolent forces at work in East Timor today.

Yours sincerely,

IAN EVANS.

The following information is from the web site of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and was telecast on ABC-TV tonight (7:00 pm AEST, 9/9/99)

#### UN CONFIRMS MASSACRE AT SUAI

The United Nations has confirmed a massacre in which approximately 100 supporters of independence were shot or hacked to death by rampaging pro-Jakarta militia members earlier this week.

The victims were among more than 2,000 terrified people who had taken refuge from the militia for some weeks in a church in the western town of Suai. Three priests are believed to have been among those killed during the militia attack on Tuesday. The East Timorese head of the Catholic aid agency Caritas, Father Francisco Barreto, is also believed to have been killed.

In other reports, six nuns from the Canossian order were reportedly killed in the city of Baucau, 115 kilometers east of Dili.

A spokeswoman for Caritas in Australia said priests have been identified as supporting independence because pro-independence supporters had begun seeking shelter in church buildings in the past months.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2788.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentle-

woman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) be removed as a co-sponsor of H.R. 2788. She was inadvertently added as a cosponsor of this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

#### LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. BONIOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished majority leader for the purposes of inquiring about the schedule for the rest of the week and next week.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BONIOR. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that we have completed legislative business for the week. The House will therefore not be in session tomorrow.

The House will next meet on Monday, September 13, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and at 2:00 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to Members' offices tomorrow.

On Monday, we do not expect recorded votes until 6:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, September 14, and the balance of next week, the House will take up the following measures, all of which will be subject to rules: H.R. 417, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act; H.R. 1551, the Civil Aviation Research and Development Authorization Act; H.R. 1655, the Department of Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act; H.R. 2490, the Treasury and Postal Service Appropriations Conference Report; S. 1059, the National Defense Authorization Conference Report; and H.R. 1402, a bill regarding Federal Milk Marketing Orders.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 17, no votes are expected after 2:00 p.m. I wish all of my colleagues safe travel back to their districts, and I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I have just a couple of questions for the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY).

Can the gentleman tell us the day in which campaign finance will be brought to the floor?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BONIOR. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the campaign finance reform will be considered on Tuesday, and I might add we expect that to be a fairly lengthy debate and we would ex-

pect Members or advise Members to expect a late evening on Tuesday.

Mr. BONIOR. Does the gentleman expect a late evening other than Tuesday next week?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BONIOR. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. We can tell the gentleman we will conclude business by 6:00 or so on Wednesday evening. The Hispanic Caucus has a very important dinner, and the schedule will accommodate to that dinner.

We expect that Thursday evening might possibly run a little late, but we certainly would hold to our 2:00 departure time on Friday.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague.

Finally, let me just ask my colleague that in August, before the recess, about 18 colleagues on the gentleman's side of the aisle signed a letter to the leadership asking that the minimum wage bill be brought up this fall before we adjourn for the year, and I am just wondering if the gentleman, who I know has a real fondness for the minimum wage bill, would enlighten us on when and if that will happen.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BONIOR. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

Yes, we are aware of this interest on the part of the Members on both sides of the aisle. We have key Members of the House working on that. I can only say to the gentleman he might expect something later in the year, but I have nothing more definite to say on that.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding, and have a good weekend.

#### ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order